Stocking of Edible Oil by NDDB

7586. SHRI O.P.KOHLI:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the NDDB holding huge stocks of edible oils in their godowns and not releasing the same in the market to contain the rising prices and to meet the gap between the demand and the supply;

(b) what was the purpose for which the NDDB was holding such a huge stock of edible oils;

(c) the steps taken by Government to check such hoardings detrimental to the public interest;

(d) whether the Government of Gujarat seized large stocks of edible oils from the NDDB; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) The NDDB is continuously marketing edible oil and stocks are maintained for continuity in sales of edible oil.

(c) In accordance with the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the Pulses, Edible Oilseeds and Edible Oils (Storage Control) Order, 1977, the State Government/UT Administrations have been empowered to take stringent action against the hoarders/blackmarketeers.

(d) and (e) The Government of Gujarat seized 22,119 MT of edible oil stock from the godowns of NDDB located at Kandla. Rajkot, Jaguoan & Anand on 4th, 5th & 6th April, 1995. Under the Storage Control Order, as on date, the stock limits for the domestic oils was fixed at 7700 MT for NDDB and the stock of the imported vegetable palmolein oil were exempted from the purview of the Storage Control Order, 1977. The stock of 22,119 MT of edible oil of which 16.963 MT of imported palmolein and 5156 MT of domestic oil were within the stock limits imposed by the Govt.

Coal Mines in Eighth Five Year Plan

7587. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Coal mines whereing is likely to be undertaken durinng the Eighth Fiive Year Plan, Company-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to give new coal mines on lease to the private sector; and

(c) if so, the terms and conditions laid down for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Number of new projects sanctioned during 8th plan period and number of projects formulated

awaiting investment decision excluding re-organisation projects is given below:

Company	Number of Projects sanctoned during 8th Plan	Numer of Projects formulated awaiting investment decision
Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	2	2
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	0	1
Central Coalfields Ltd.	7	11
Northern Coalfields Ltd.	0	2
Western Coalfields Ltd.	8	6
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	11	2
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	1	3
North Eastern Coalfields	..	..
Singareni Colleiries Company Ltd. . . .	6	9

The investment decision on there projects will depend on tecnno-economic appraisal, and availability of funds.

(b) and (c) Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 has been amended w.e.f. 9.6.1993 to allow private sector participation in coal mining. This amendment enables companies engaged in power generation or washing of coal obtained from a mine and such other end uses as may be notified by Government from time to time to carry out coal mining. This is in addition to the existing provision enabling companies engaged in the production of iron and steel to carry out coal mining. Washing of coal obtained from a mine has also now been opened to the private sector.

The following are the guidelines adopted for allocation of blocks to the private sector for coal mining for power generation:

(i) Preferably blocks in green field areas where basic infrastructure like road, rail links etc. is yet to be developed should be given to the private sector. The areas where CIL has already invested in creating such infrastructure for opening new mines should not be handed over to the private sector. except on reimbursement of costs.

(ii) The blocks offered to private sector should be at reasonable distance from existing mines and projects of Coal India Ltd. (CIL) in order to avoid operational problems.

(iii) Blocks already identified for development by CIL where adequate funding is on hand or in sight should not be offered to the private sector.

(iv) Private sector should be asked to bear full cost of exploration in these blocks which may be offered.

(v) For identifying blocks the requirement of coal for about 30 years would be considered.

Foreign collaborations in coal mining

7588. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what are reasons for which various foreign collaborations in coal mining are being sought;

(b) whether it is a fact that techno-economic compulsion like planning and